

I have recently learned of Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair, as do all commercial broadcasters, uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

I believe in the fairness doctrine. PBS's Frontline has been broadcasting a realistic portrayal of the experiences of both presidential candidates. What Sinclair is doing seems illegal to me. I especially dislike the fact that they are forcing their affiliates to carry this program. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned

postcard. Thank you.

Sincerely

Jerome Levitt